RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 12 th August, 1988/21st Sravana, 1910 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock. Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह (बिहार) : सभापति महोदय, कल भी मैंने यह बात उठाई थी कि हमारे यहां चार रोज से पानी नहीं आया है और हमने नहाया भी नहीं है। प्रधान मंत्री जी यहां पर थे और अन्य मंत्री लोग भी थे। आज तक पानी का इंतजाम नहीं हुआ है। संसद् सदस्य कोई बात कहते हैं तो तब भी इनके अफसर देखने तक को नहीं जाते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 241.

*241. [*The questioner (Shri Suresh Pachouri) was absent. For answers* vide Col. 37-38 infra).

*242. [*The questioners (Shri M. Kadharsha and Dr. C. Silvera) were absent. For answer* vide *Col. 39-40* **infra].**

*243. [*The questioners (Dr. Ratnakar Pandey and Dr. Abrar Ahmed Khan) were absent. For answer* vide *Question* No. 244 infra].

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं, मैं वैस्टर्न कोर्ट में रहता हूं। वहां जाकर कोई देखने भी नहीं गया है। ऐसे अफसरों को सैंसर किया जाये।

श्री सभापति : हाउस का कुछ तरीका होता है। मैंने आपको कहा है कि मैं मंत्री जी से बात करूंगा। हाउस में किसी बात को उठाने का एक ढंग होता है। Question No. 244.

Welfare Schemes Based on Economic and Social Backwardness

*244. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make the Welfare Schemes more broad based on economic and social backwardness rather than confining cast considerations, if so, what are the details therof; and

(b) the number of welfare schemes at present under consideration of economic and social backwardness and how many are on caste considerations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) The welfare schemes are already sufficiently broad based. As required in the Constitution of India, there are certain schemes specially meant for Scheduled Castes who also receive priority consideration in several other schemes as well.

(b) 13 schemes of the Ministry of Welfare are exclusively for economically and socially backward sections, i.e. the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Sir, my question relates to the economic and social backwardness rather than confining to caste considerations. Why I have put this question in this way is because sometimes millionaires and multimillionaires by accident happened to have birth in a partciular community and sometimes it is very artificial also. It is designated as backward classes. Then, they take advantage of their own borthers and sisters who are socially and economically backward. Therefore, my question actually relates to economic and social backwardness problem. How do you define these welfare schemes under consideration for economically and socially backward classes? How many are on caste considerations?

Part (b) of my question should be properly answered. If it is on caste considerations how do you demarcate that persons who are well off in those castes would not get advantage of the welfare schemes. Government jobs or whatever it is? They are taking advantage of the schemes at the cost of their own brothers and sisters who are

socially and economically backward. May I know from the Minister whether this point will be kept in view? This is my question.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Sir, article 15 (4) of the Constitution provides for special provisions for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. So, this is the Constitutional provision and the Government is acting according to that. It has been held by the courts that the backward classes have to be both socially as well as educationally and the Welfare Ministry has got all the schemes that take into consideration all these points, i.e. the educational backwardness and the social backwardness. There is no mention about the economic backwardness in article 15 of the Constitution. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes automatically come within the purview of article 15(4) and therefore, they are treated as belonging to the backward class of citizens. The hon. Member is mentioning that some people may become rich but how they are getting all types of benefits under this scheme. As long as we are pursuing this Act of the Constitution it is in the Constitution, we cannot dilute it.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: My question does not only relate to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes... (Interruption)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, she has mentioned, the Constitution provides for socially.... (Interruption).

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: I. am not referring to only these two sections. There are.... (Interruptions)....

MR. CHAIRMAN: She says, the third category is not provided in the Constitution.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: No, Sir, backward class is mentioned; but she says that backward class is not defined with the criteria of economic backwardness. Now, my submission would be, Sir, that social backwardness and economic backwardness, they both generally go together. They cannot be separated. Therefore, from that angle, there are some other castes also whom you call backward but there the vested interests have already developed and they are cornering all the benefits at the cost of their own poor brethren, exploited people. I am more worried about them. Give more rights to these really socially, economically and educationally backward poor people of the backward class. But why this benefit should go to upper strata? Therefore, I would like to know whether any demarcation is going to be made.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Sir, we are giving benefit under the Constitution only. For that, upper strata or lower strata is not the criterion. The Scheduled Castes have been treated as socially backward because of the practice of untouchability in the Hindu social structure. This has led to their educational as well as economic backwardness. So, it covers that. (*Interruption*). The Government of India has not yet just recognised on some per centage level that these are backward classes and so on. These are recognised by the States. Different States have got their own castes and some are backward economically and socially. Those are the Scheduled Castes. Otherwise to those who are poor and castewise also, the State Governments have given them reservation like that.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: My question has not been answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question has been there, she has repeated it. You understand everything. We cannot force her to say what you want her to say.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Sir, if she makes some announcement in the House, it will be a good clarification because in the States, economic ceiling is there. I am not referring to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Let that right be there. I am not opposed to it and I am not raising this question... (Interruption.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has noted your views.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Sir, I agree with my colleague that most of the benefits being given by the Government... (Interruption)..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put your question.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Sir, I would like to know whether the Government has carried out any survey to find out whether really the poor Scheduled Castes and poor backward people have benefited or rich people are benefiting. Because the complaint is that only rich people are benefiting and I would like to know whether a ceiling will be fixed. For example, the I.A.S. officers or other officers or people who are better off in the society get advantage of the benefits meant for the poor classes and the scheduled castes and backward classes. This benefit is given to them and not to others above a certain ceiling.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Sir, as far as rich people are concerned, even if they are scheduled castes or scheduled tirbes, they are getting it. Their children are getting the benefits of reservation. But I also want to say that there is an income ceiling. According to that, the children of a person getting an income of above Rs. 12,000 per annum will not get scholarship. Also we have fixed the limit of the number of children getting such benefit at two. That is, male children. For girls there is no limit. The question of richer people getting more benefits does not arise. The Government has no information like that.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: What about job reservation? They will get reservation in jobs.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Job reservation is not connected with economic ceiling.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not her jurisdiction. It does not come under her Ministry.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Yes, Sir.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, under the Constitution we have provided certain benefits to backward classes, Scheduled Castes, etc. My point is, all these benefits have to go to the needy and deserving among the backward classes, Scheduled Castes or to people in the economically backward strata. If I am correct, this is a scheme of the Central Government to be implemented through the State Governments. But what happens to this distribution of benefits at the lower strata? For example, you are giving gas agencies. Who is the ultimate beneficiary of the gas agency? Some Makwana is only a benami there. The real beneficiary is a Kulkarni.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Sir, I want to say that I have no gas agency.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said 'some Makwana'.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I did not attribute it to him. Some Makwana, benami for a Kulkarni, is getting the agency.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kulkarnis are very clever people.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Kulkannis are only accountants. Pathan is rich.

I am not concerned with richness or poverty. I would like to say, in all seriousness, this is happening. There is the limitation of Rs. 12,000. But, ultimately...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not repeat it. What is it that you exactly want to know?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I am bringing to her notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has already got notice.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Some persons are enhancing their earning capacity by their social position because of the Constitutional protection they have got. There should be some other criteria apart from this Rs. 12,000 limit, so that there is no social tension. Particularly in mofussil areas, there is tension among different communities like Jats, Marathas and Scheduled Castes. For this purpose, the Government has to review its policy at a certain stage and see that the benefits are really passed on to the needy and the deserving.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a suggestion They will consider it. The Govennment will consider it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Neither are you a Minister nor do you have any authority to pass any order. The Minister has to say that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kulkarni, you are a very senior Member.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Yes. I am a senior Member, Sir. There is no doubt.

MR CHAIRMAN: You know that what you have put as a question is a suggestion for action. That is what I have put in very simple terms.

SHRI A G. KULKARNI: Sir, if the hon. Minister says that she has noted the views of the hon. Member and they are under consideration, it becomes a Government assurance. Your saying this has no meaning at all. You are only our Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know that.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING: (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): Sir, Mr. Kulkarni knows much more than me about parliamentary law, parctice and procedure. But when the Chairman makes some observations from the Chair, then no Minister can ignore that. If you make an observation, Sir, then as a matter of principle no Minister can ignore that.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: She has to reply on behalf of the Government. That is all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want Government views.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Sir, I agree with the hon. Member's suggestions and we will be vigilant about them.

श्री अरविन्द गजेश कुलकर्णी : यह ब्रह्म वाक्य हो गया । वह ब्रह्म वाक्य नहीं था ।

श्री सभापति : ब्रह्म वाक्य आपका भी है, ब्रह्म वाक्य उनका भी है, ... (व्यवधान) ब्रह्म वाक्य कुलकर्णी जी का भी है और आपका भी है ।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : आपका भी है ।

श्री सभापति : आपका कहां कहा मैंने ।

SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: There is no denying the fact that the Government is very sympathetic towards the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Large sums of money are being kept apart for the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But the money which is set apart for the Scheduled Castes and the Schedued Tribes is diverted to other activities. It is for

this reason that the condition of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes is deteriorating even after 40 years of Independence. What is the machinery that you have got to check this divertion of money which is set apart for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and is used for the benefit of other people who are not Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: Government has no information about divertion of money. There are certain schemes which are centrally sponsored schemes. Fifty per cent is given by the Central Government and 50 per cent is borne by the State Government. Sir, we have got no definite information or any specific information about the diversion of funds. If the hon. Member gives me any specific information, we can look into it.

SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have put your question and she has replied.

SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: It is a question based on her reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When you come on this side, then you can do it.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति जी, मूल प्रश्न आरक्षण के बारे में नहीं था, यह कल्याण योजनाओं के बारे में था लेकिन चर्चा आरक्षण की चल पडी है। संविधान में शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लिए जो रिजर्वेशन है वह अपनी जगह पर है, ठीक है उसे कायम रहना चाहिए। अब पिछड़े वर्गों के लिए भी रिजर्वेशन हो रहा है। आर्थिक दृष्टि से वे भी पिछड़े हैं। सामाजिक दृष्टि से भी उनके साथ भेदभाव हो रहा है। मैं रिजर्वेशन के बारे में ही प्रश्न पूछ लेता हूं। आर्थिक दृष्टि से जो गरीब हैं, सबसे ज्यादा गरीब, अति गरीब, वे फिर किसी भी वर्ग के हों किसी भी जाति के हों क्या उनके लिए 2,3,4 परसेंट रिजर्वेशन करने के बारे में केन्द्र सरकार ने विचार किया है और क्या इस संबंध में राज्यों को कोई सिफारिश की जायेगी?

डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी बाजपेयी : जो बहुत ही गरीब लोग हैं उनको गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से 20 पाइंट प्रोग्राम के अंतर्गत मदद दी जा रही है। हमारे एन.आर.ई.पी., आर.एल.ई.जी.पी., आई.आर.डी.पी. आदि प्रोग्राम गांवों के अंदर हैं। इम्प्लायमेंट देने के तथा शहरों के अंदर भी प्रोग्राम्स हैं जैसे हाउसिंग स्कीम्स हैं हमारी ड्रिंकिंग वाटर स्कीम है, स्लम क्लीयरेंस की स्कीम है और जो बहुत ही गरीब हैं उनको सर्विसेज में विशेष रूप से लिया जाता है, उनकी रिजरवेशन होती है। इसी तरह से 20 पाइंट प्रोग्राम में जितने भी प्रोग्राम हैं वे इन्हीं गरीबों के लिए हैं जो बिलो पावर्टी लाइन हैं जो पावर्टी लाइन की रेखा रखी गयी है 6400 रुपये इन्कम ग्रुप उसके नीचे के जितने लोग हैं वे सब 20 पाइंट प्रोग्राम के अंतर्गत आते है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : मेरा सवाल रिजर्वेशन के बारे में था। 20 पाइंट प्रोग्राम का लाभ तो सबको मिल रहा है।

डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी बाजपेयी : आपने जो 2, 3 परसेंट बहुत गरीब हैं उनके लिए कहा। हम लोग तो जो 20 पाइंट प्रोग्राम में कर रहे हैं वह जो बहुत ही गरीब है, बिलो पावर्टी लाइन हैं उनके लिए कर रहे है.. (**व्यवधान**) उस तरह के रिजर्वेशन का, माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं बहुत साफ कर देना चाहती हूं कि कुछ एसे लोग भी हैं, जो कि सोशली और एजुकेशनली बैकवर्ड जरूर है और समय-समय पर, संविधान के अंतर्गत यह भी रखा गया कि कमीशन बनाया जाएगा, पहले काका कालेलकर कमेटी बनाई गई थी, उसने सारे देश में जाकर देखा था।... (**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति : ये इकोनोमीकली बेकवर्ड का सब कह रहे हैं, आपने उसका तो जवाब दे ही दिया है।

डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी बाजपेयी : यह मैंने कह ही दिया। ट्वेण्टी पाइंट प्रोग्राम के अंदर तो गरीबी की बात है . . . (**व्यवधान**) . . .

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : जो पूअरेस्ट हैं, उनके लिए कोई रिजर्वेशन कोटा है या नहीं ?

डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी बाजपेयी : सभापति जी, जो बहुत ही गरीब हैं, उनके लिए ट्वेण्टी पाइंट प्रोग्राम है।

श्री सभापति : सर्विसेज के रिजर्वेशन का पूछ रहे हैं।

डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी बाजपेयी : रिजर्वेशन का क्या सवाल है, इतने ज्यादा लोग गरीब हैं, जिस देश में। उत्तर प्रदेश में ही 50 परसेंट विलो पावरटी लाइन में हैं और किसी स्टेट में 46 परसेंट विलो पावरटी लाइन में हैं।

श्री अटल बिहारी बाजपेयी : इनको जवाब देना चाहिए "हां" या "ना" में . . . (**व्यवधान**) . . .

डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी बाजपेयी : दो-तीन परसेंट से काम नहीं चलता क्योंकि सब के लिए देखना होगा, जितने भी गरीब हैं उनके लिए और गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी है, ट्वेण्टी पाइंट प्रोग्राम के अंतर्गत हम उनको पावरटी लाइन से अपर लाने का कर रहे हैं।

श्री सभापति : उनका सवाल इस पर नहीं है, उनका सवाल है रिजर्वेशन पर।

डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी बाजपेयी : गरीबी के आधार पर कोई रिजर्वेशन कैसे किया जा सकता है। यह तो कांस्टीट्यूशन में इस तरह से है ही नहीं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question. Question No. 245.

*245. [*The questioner (Shri Suresh Kalmadi) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 42-43 infra]

*246. [*Withdrawn*]

*247. [*The questioner (Shri Satya Prakash Malaviya) was absent. For answer* vide col. 44-45 infra]

*248. [*The questioners (Shri V. Gopalsamy and Shri T. R. Balu) were absent. For answer* vide col. 46-49 infra]

*249.[*The question (Shri Harvendra Singh Hanspal) was absent. For answer* vide col. 50-51 infra].

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 250. Mr. Ahluwalia.

National Symposium on Plants Virus Problem

*250. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Symposium on plants virus problem in India was held recently at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and if so, when;

(b) whether any concrete plan has been formulated to save crops from pest and diseases and if so, the details of the plans, crop-wise; and

(c) by when the above plan is going to be introduced and implemented by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) to (c) A Statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. The National Symposium on Plant virus Problems in India was held on 5-6 April, 1988 at Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

(b) The symposium has highlighted major virus diseases problems and has suggested steps for managing them. The Symposium was conducted in seven sessions, namely virus dis-